

Serial No. 09/884,231

Filed: June 19, 2001

REMARKS

Claims 28-33, 45-55, 65-66 and 68-76 are pending in the present application. Independent Claim 65 has been amended to describe at least one of a plurality of non-conducting threads. This amendment should not be construed as a narrowing amendment. Dependent Claims 66, 68 and 69 were similarly amended to maintain antecedent basis with Claim 65. Claim 67 was canceled. Dependent Claims 70-76 were added to claim additional subject matter disclosed in the specification. No new matter has been added.

Petition From Requirement for Restriction

Applicant filed a Petition From Requirement for Restriction on April 6, 2005 in response to a restriction requirement mailed on July 27, 2004. Applicant has not yet received a response from the US Patent and Trademark Office to said Petition. Applicant respectfully requests a response to the Petition.

Election/Restrictions

Applicant hereby provisionally elects, with traverse, Invention VI identified in the office action mailed October 5, 2005 as including Claims 65-69.

Applicant's provisional election with traverse is due to the classification of Invention VI. Specifically, Claim 65 has been classified in class 29, subclass 868. Subclass 868 describes "Process of joining elongated conductor(s) (*) to one another," where an "elongated conductor" is defined as "A body whose longitudinal dimension is much greater than any of its lateral dimensions and which is designed for the stated proximate purpose of carrying an electric current or electromagnetic energy." Claim 65 does describe an electrical conductor, however, Claim 65 does not describe a "process of joining elongated conductors" as required by subclass 868. Accordingly, Claims 65-69 are misclassified, and Applicant respectfully urges that at least Claim 65 should be reclassified, and/or identified as a "linking claim" similar to the identification of Claims 28 and 47.

Serial No. 09/884,231

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In addition, Claim 52 has been classified in class 29 subclass 840. Subclass 840 describes "Process wherein a portion of the electrical component (*) or of a terminal (*) attached thereto is composed of metal and further wherein the portion is either raised to a fusible temperature or subjected to metal in a fused state thereby effecting bonding of the electrical component (*) to the base." Claim 52 does not describe a terminal composed of metal. In addition, Claim 52 does not describe being raised to a fusible temperature or being subjected to metal in a fused state. Thus Claim 52 is also misclassified and Applicant respectfully urges that Claim 52 should be classified similar to Claim 33. Further, Claims 61-64 were classified in Class 29 subclass 606, however Claims 45, 46, 50 and 51 were classified in class 29 subclass 858. Applicant respectfully urges that Claims 61-64 and Claims 45, 46, 50 and 51 should be similarly classified.

Claims 70-76

New dependent Claims 70-74 are similar to existing claims 57-60, which were identified in the office action mailed October 5, 2005 as being included in Class 29, subclass 606 (Invention V). However, Applicant respectfully asserts that new Claims 70-74 are not drawn to "making electrical contact to a moving coil of a transducer" as describe in the office action mailed October 5, 2005 as Invention V. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the examination of Claims 70-74 on the merits as part of elected Invention VI (Claims 65-69). New Claims 75-76 are similar to Claims 46, 46, 50 and 51 identified in the office action mailed October 5, 2005 as Invention III.

Claims 48 and 55

Dependent Claims 48 and 55 were not identified as being part of the restriction requirement, and were not identified similarly to Claims 30, 31 and 49 as being of "no burden" to examine. Applicant respectfully urges that Claims 48 and 55 are of "no burden" to examine and respectfully requests examination on the merits of Claims 48 and 55.

Serial No. 09/884,231

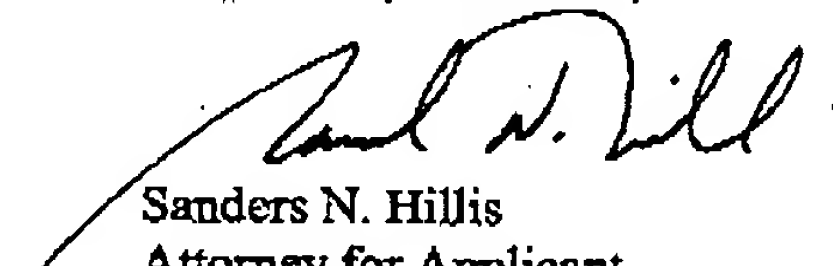
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For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and modification or withdrawal of the restriction requirement mailed on October 5, 2005. In addition, Applicant respectfully requests further examination on the merits of Claims 28, 30, 31, 47, 48, 49, 55, and 65-76.

Applicant respectfully urges careful re-consideration of the present restriction requirement, especially restriction of the dependent claims, in view of the requirement that each identified invention must be able to support separate patents, that the identified inventions are either independent or distinct, and that the identified inventions invoke "serious burden" to search and examine. Applicant respectfully notes that previous search and examination of similar dependent claims previously pending in the present application apparently did not meet this criteria.

Applicant believes that present claims are allowable in their present form and that this application is in condition for allowance. It is therefore respectfully requested that the Examiner so find and issue a Notice of Allowance in due course. Should the Examiner deem a telephone conference to be beneficial in expediting examination/allowance of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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